



Salem-Zion Mennonite Church

November 17, 2019

When we ask God, 'Why?'

"I cry to you and you do not answer me." - Job 30:20a

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Prelude – *Praise and Thanksgiving Suite* arr. Burkhardt

Welcome and Call to Worship Janette Epp

L: We gather as your people in this place to worship our living God.

P: We come with questions, concerns and burdens.

L: We come with faith that is fragile, frail and feeble.

P: We come with hurts, wounds and pain.

L: We come as we are, with the stuff of our lives, and You meet us in love.

ALL: Hold us as we gather in Jesus' name, to worship You in Spirit and in Truth.

Opening Prayer

PRAISING GOD

* Hymn of Praise – *O worship the King* HWB #66

Greetings and Announcements

Children's Story Meranda Van Ningen

Offering our gifts – Mennonite Church USA

Offertory – *For All the Saints* arr. Held

* Song – *Praise God from whom* (HWB #119) & Offertory Prayer

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Hearing the Text Matthew 27:45-46

Hymn – *O thou, in whose presence* HWB #559

Hearing the Text Job 29:1-10; Job 30:9-12, 16-22

Sermon – "The Why Questions" Corey Miller

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Song – *Come, bring your burdens to God* SS #50

Sharing and Congregational Prayer

* Sending Song – *O Power of love* HWB #593

* Benediction

Postlude – *Now Thank We All* arr. Karg-Elert

* Congregation please stand. If standing is difficult, please remain seated.

The peace lamp is lit weekly as a reminder that there is violence and suffering in the world. We as a faith community pray for peace for all people and look for ways to be active in peacemaking and proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Church Calendar

Deadline for bulletin submissions is 8:30 p.m. Wednesday; salemzion@gwtc.net

TODAY

There are times when we ask the question, "Why?" in the midst of our trials and hardships. It is what Job asked his friends and God in the midst of his pain. Today we take comfort in our God who welcomes all our questions and surrounds us with suffering love.

Greeters: Cordell and Clara Graber; **Organist:** Ruby Waltner

9:15 a.m. – Sunday School

10:10 a.m. – Fellowship Time

10:30 a.m. – Worship Service

Today: Annual Business Meeting - Following our worship, we will have a great noon meal provided by the deacons. A donation basket will help with expenses. At 12:30pm, we will begin the meeting. Please plan on staying for the meal and our meeting where we will hear reports, affirm a budget for the new year and discuss important issues for our church.

"Celebrating Giving"

This morning we receive an offering for Mennonite Church USA. This offering will help with the general budget of MC USA, which aids and supports local conferences and the worldwide church. Thank you for supporting this ministry.

THIS WEEK

Nov. 18-19 (Mon-Tues) MCC Meat Canner at C&B Operations

Nov. 20 (Wed) 6:15-7:00 p.m. – Christmas Eve practice at North Church

Nov. 20 7:00 p.m. – Chancel choir

Nov. 20 8:00 p.m. – Ladies choir, Men's choir

Nov. 21 (Thurs) 7:00 p.m. – *Shine* webinar

NEXT SUNDAY – Nov. 24

Next Sunday we will conclude our journey with Job. The focus is "Final Word: God." and the texts are Job 38-42. Pastor Corey will be preaching and the adult choir will be singing.

Greeters: Judy Rechnagel and Betty Albrecht; **Offering:** Freeman Academy; **Organist:** Dan Graber; **Special Music:** Chancel Choir

COMING EVENTS

Nov. 24 – Christmas Eve practice from 12:30-2:00 p.m. at South Church

Nov. 24 – Over 80's Tea at Tieszen Home from 3:00-5:00 p.m.

Nov. 27 – Children's choir, Chancel choir at 7:00 p.m.; Ladies choir, Men's choir at 8:00 p.m.; Combined Men's choir at 9:00 p.m.

Nov. 28 – Thanksgiving Day worship service at 10:30 a.m. at Salem-Zion;

Offering for MCC Meat Canner

Dec. 15 – Christmas Open House at Corey and Nancy Miller's home from 2:00-5:00 p.m.

Salem-Zion Prayer Requests & News

Happenings over the past week:

- Gabriel Eisenbeis and the rest of the MCC Meat Canner crew arrived in Freeman over the weekend. They will begin canning meat in Freeman on Monday and Tuesday.

Remember to pray for:

- those who cannot be here today: Elsie Schmidt.
- our sister congregations in Montana: Ashland, Lame Deer, White Chapel and White River Cheyenne.

Remember to thank God for:

- all the times when God's Spirit has ministered to us with our questions.

Advent Coming: If you are interested, you can download our Advent devotional booklet for this year. "**Waiting and Wondering,**" this year's Advent At Home booklet for families and people of all ages, is available now at mennoniteusa.org/resource/advent-at-home.

On Thursday, November 28, when we gather as two churches to celebrate Thanksgiving, we will be accepting the following **food donations for the Marion School:** Granola bars, protein bars, peanut butter and crackers, mixed nuts, almonds, and cash for yogurt and string cheese. These items will be distributed by the school counselor to kids who need a snack to get through their day. Please place your donations in the baskets in the narthex and Thank You from the Salem-Zion Outreach and Service Committee on behalf of Bearcat Avenue.

Junior department teachers and anyone else interested: It's not too late to register for the second *Shine: Living in God's Light* webinar, this Thursday, November 21! In this webinar Joyce Peachey Lind will explore with us some tips and best practices for teachers of the *Shine* curriculum. For more information or to RSVP see www.centralplainsmc.org/shine-webinar or contact Amanda Bleichy at (319) 325-4522.

North Churchers, come hear a bit of Megan Eisenbeis' MCC SALT experience in Nepal – Next Sunday evening, November 24 you are invited to South Church's Fellowship Hall for a Nepali-inspired supper and time of learning starting at 5:30pm. Megan will share about her work related to diet, nutrition and sustainable food choice. A love offering will be received for the meal and for MCC nutrition programs.

Community Connections

This afternoon - Sunday, Nov. 17 at 2 p.m. - **Heritage Hall Museum & Archives** will be hosting a program that is all about poppyseed at the Prairie Arboretum Interpretive Center. Freeman native, Shella (Ortman) Franz of Mountain Lake, MN, has researched and put together a presentation that will answer all of your poppyseed-related questions including what varieties of poppies are edible, where poppyseed originates, how it is grown & harvested, how it is connected to opium, and some of the traditional (and not so well-known) dishes that use it. Come see, taste and learn! Admission will be charged; HHM&A members are free.

As the holidays approach, the Et Cetera Shoppe once again would welcome your **donations of traditional pfeffernusse (peppernut) cookies** made from the recipe of your choice. Every year, the sale of peppernuts at the shop greatly boosts our end-of-year giving to the work of Mennonite Central Committee. Please consider making a batch and bringing them to the shop any time before Thanksgiving!

Wellspring Wholistic Care Center, Freeman, is sponsoring a **Grief Seminar** on Nov. 23 from 1-4 pm at the Prairie Arboretum Visitor's Center south of Freeman Academy. Speakers from the surrounding area will share their grief challenges. This year's panel will be discussing Grief in the Holidays. If you are unsure as to how you will get through the holidays because of grief, this seminar is for you. Featured speaker is Dr. Daniel Burow.

The Sioux Empire Brass is presenting their Holiday Concert on Sunday, November 24, 4:00 pm at Our Savior's Lutheran Church, 909 W 33rd St, Sioux Falls. The Sioux Empire Brass is directed by Rolyn Beaird. The Sioux Empire Brass is a 35-piece brass choir made up of musicians from Sioux Falls and surrounding communities. Katrina (Schmidt) Gordon from our congregation is a member of the group. A freewill offering will be taken.

Rural Revival will meet on November 25 at 8:00 p.m. in the Freeman Public Library. All are welcome to attend. The education topic for this month is hobby beekeeping presented by Bob Engbrecht.

Every child deserves a gift this holiday season and the Courier, in partnership with the Freeman Food Pantry, invites you to join us in filling a **community toy box for local kids**. Please consider spreading some holiday joy to those less fortunate this holiday season. Giving is easy as 1-2-3: 1. Purchase a gift in the \$10-\$25 range. 2. Bring unwrapped gifts to the Courier office at 308 S. Main Street, Freeman and help fill our toy box. 3. Be entered

into a drawing for \$100 Freeman Bucks. One entry per person. Drop off your gifts by Thursday, December 5.

Swan Lake Christian Camp will be hosting **Piano Night at the Lake** on Saturday, Dec. 7 at 6:00pm. A meal will be served while being entertained with music from area musicians. Reservations are required and a free will donation will be taken. Call 605-326-5690 or email campoffice@myslcc.com to make your reservation. A raffle is being held for a Christmas quilt. The winner will be drawn at Piano Night. Tickets are \$5 each and can be purchased by contacting Judi. You need not be present to win. Pictures of the quilt can be seen on the Swan Lake Christian Camp facebook page.

Living God's Peace: "We who were formerly no people at all, and who knew of no peace, are now called to be...a church...of peace. True Christians do not know vengeance. They are the children of peace. Their hearts overflow with peace. Their mouths speak peace, and they walk in the way of peace..." - Menno Simons

Pastor Corey Miller

Office Hours:

Tues.-Fri. 8:00 a.m. - Noon
corey.miller@gwtc.net
Cell phone: 319-930-7320

5

Church Admin. Assistant:

Lisa Kaufman

Tues. & Thurs. 9:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
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6